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Attorney Docket: 02280
U.S. Application No. 10/735,309 Art Unit 2611
Response to March 17, 2008 Office Action

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method of capturing user commands from a viewer that are related to viewing content, comprising:

receiving a first user command at a viewer appliance ~~at a premises of the viewer;~~
~~subsequently receiving a second user command at the viewer appliance;~~
~~performing a look-up to determine whether the first user command is locally~~
~~stored in the viewer appliance, remotely stored at a network location, or stored in both the~~
~~viewer appliance and in the network location; and~~
~~executing the first user command at the viewer appliance~~
~~relative to receiving the first user command, concurrently storing information~~
~~related to the first user command at the viewer appliance; and~~
~~relative to receiving the second user command, concurrently forwarding the~~
~~second user command from the viewer appliance to a component located remotely from~~
~~the premises of the viewer.~~

2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

executing the first user command at the viewer appliance to alter a first aspect of the content being viewed by the viewer.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

executing the first user command and a second user command ~~commands~~ at the viewer appliance to alter aspects of the content being viewed by the viewer.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein when the user command is to be
remotely stored at the network location, then forwarding the first user command from

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~~further comprising querying whether the information related to the first user command should be locally stored at the viewer appliance.~~

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[5]] 1, further comprising forwarding the information related to the first user command from the viewer appliance ~~to the component located remotely from the premises of the viewer~~.
6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein when the first user command is not to be stored at the viewer appliance, then forwarding the first user command to the network location ~~further comprising querying whether the information related to the second user command should be locally stored at the viewer appliance.~~
7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising receiving a second user command and determining a result of the second user command relative to a present context and including the result in the information related to the second user command that is forwarded from the viewer appliance.
8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein receiving the first user command ~~and the second user command at the viewer appliance~~ comprises receiving the first user command ~~and the second user command~~ at a set-top box.
9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

~~relative to receiving a the second user command [[,]] and concurrently storing information related to the second user command at the viewer appliance.~~
10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[1]] 9, wherein receiving the first user command and the second user command at the viewer appliance comprises receiving the first user command and the second user command at a set-top box integrated with a television.

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11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

after a pre-determined period of time expires, forwarding [[the]] information related to the first user command from the viewer appliance.
12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11, further comprising forwarding the information related to the first user command to a storage device located remotely from the premises of the viewer.
13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising receiving targeted advertising based upon the information related to the user command.
14. (Currently Amended) A method of capturing user commands from a viewer that are related to viewing content, comprising:

receiving a first user command at a viewer appliance at a premises of the viewer;
~~subsequently receiving a second user command at the viewer appliance;~~
~~performing a look-up to determine whether the first user command is locally stored in the viewer appliance, remotely stored at a network location, or stored in both the viewer appliance and in the network location;~~
~~locally storing the first user command in the viewer appliance when local storage is determined;~~
~~remotely storing the first user command at the network location when remote storage is determined;~~
~~both locally and remotely storing the first user command when local storage and remote storage is determined~~
relative to receiving the first user command, concurrently storing information related to the first user command at the viewer appliance, the information related to the first user command including a date and time of receipt; and

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executing the first user command at the viewer appliance to alter a first aspect of the content being viewed by the viewer while the information related to the first user command continues to be stored at the viewer appliance; and

~~relative to receiving the second user command, concurrently forwarding the second user command from the viewer appliance to a component located remotely from the premises of the viewer.~~

15. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 14, wherein when the first user command is to be remotely stored at the network location, then forwarding the first user command from further comprising querying whether the information related to the first user command should be locally stored at the viewer appliance.
16. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15, further comprising forwarding the information related to the first user command from the viewer appliance to the component located remotely from the premises of the viewer.
17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 14, wherein when the first user command is not to be stored at the viewer appliance, then forwarding the user command to the network location further comprising querying whether the information related to the second user command should be locally stored at the viewer appliance.
18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 17, further comprising receiving a second user command and performing the look-up for the second user command wherein if the second user command is not to be locally stored at the viewer appliance, then forwarding the second user command from the viewer appliance.
19. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[14]] 18, further comprising determining a result of the second user command relative to a present context and including the result in the information related to the second user command that is remotely stored forwarded from the viewer appliance.

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20. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 19, wherein determining the result of the second user command relative to a present context comprises receiving a new video stream relative to the present context.
21. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[14]] 18, wherein receiving the first user command and the second user command comprises receiving the first user command and the second user command at a set-top box integrated with a television.
22. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[14]] 18, further comprising receiving different content based upon the information related to the second user command.
23. (Currently Amended) A system for capturing user commands from a viewer that are related to viewing content, comprising:
 - a reception mechanism located at a premises of a viewer for receiving a first ~~and a second~~ user command;
 - means for performing a look-up to determine whether the first user command is locally stored at the premises of the viewer, remotely stored at a network location, or stored at both the premises of the viewer and in the network location;
 - a transfer mechanism located at the premises of the viewer for transferring the ~~first~~ second user command;
 - a control mechanism that executes the first ~~and second~~ user command commands received by the reception mechanism to control aspects of the content being provided to the viewer; and
 - a storage mechanism located at the premises of the viewer that continues to store information related to the first user command after the first user command has been executed by the control mechanism.

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24. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 23, wherein the control mechanism comprises a first control mechanism located at the premises of the viewer for executing the first user command.
25. (Original) The system of claim 23, wherein the reception mechanism and the transfer mechanism are included in a set top box.
26. (Original) The system of claim 25, wherein the control mechanism is included in the set top box.
27. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 24, wherein when the first user command is not to be stored at the premises of the viewer, then forwarding the user command to the network location the transfer mechanism queries whether the first and the second command should be locally stored by the storage mechanism.
28. (Currently Amended) A method of capturing user commands from a viewer that are related to viewing content, comprising:

receiving the user command at a viewer appliance at the premises of the user; upon receiving the user command, performing a look-up to determine whether the first user command is locally stored at the viewer appliance, remotely stored at a network location, or stored at both the viewer appliance and in the network location determining whether to store information related to the user command at the viewer appliance and storing the information related to the user command at the viewer appliance when it is determined that the information related to the user command is to be stored at the viewer appliance; and
forwarding the first user command from the viewer appliance when remote storage is determined when it is determined not to store the information related to the user command at the viewer appliance, then forwarding the user command from the viewer appliance.

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29. (Currently Amended) A method of capturing user commands from a viewer that are related to viewing content, comprising:

receiving the user command at a viewer appliance at the premises of the viewer;
upon receiving the user command, performing a look-up to determine whether the first user command is locally stored at the viewer appliance, remotely stored at a network location, or stored at both the viewer appliance and in the network location determining whether to store information related to the user command at the viewer appliance and storing the information related to the user command at the viewer appliance when it is determined that the user command is to be stored at the viewer appliance;

upon receiving the user command, determining whether to execute the user command at the viewer appliance and executing the user command at the viewer appliance when it is determined that the user command is to be executed at the viewer appliance; and

forwarding the first user command from the viewer appliance when it is determined not to execute the user command at the viewer appliance, then forwarding the user command from the viewer appliance.

30. (Currently Amended) A method of capturing user commands from a viewer that are related to viewing content, comprising:

receiving the user command at a component remotely located from the premises of the viewer;

upon receiving the user command, performing a look-up to determine whether the first user command is locally stored at the premises of the viewer, remotely stored at a network location, or stored at both the premises of the viewer and in the network location;

querying whether to store information related to the user command and, if the query is successful, then storing the information related to user command remotely from the premises of the viewer; and

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executing the user command.

31. (Currently Amended) A method of capturing user commands from a viewer that are related to viewing content, comprising:

receiving the user command at a component remotely located from the premises of the viewer;

upon receiving the user command, storing the information related to the user command remotely from the premises of the viewer; and

performing a look-up to determine whether the user command is locally stored at the premises of the viewer, remotely stored at a network location, or stored at both the premises of the viewer and in the network location; and

upon receiving the user command, querying whether to execute the user command and executing the user command when it is determined that the user command is to be executed.

32. (New) A method of collecting subscriber commands related to viewing content, comprising:

receiving a first subscriber command having an application identifier corresponding to a particular application to which the first subscriber command is addressed;

concurrently locally storing an event record at a media device, the event record comprising i) the application identifier, ii) an identification code corresponding to the first subscriber command, and iii) a time stamp that records a time of occurrence of the first subscriber command;

subsequently receiving a second subscriber command at the media device; and

concurrently forwarding the second subscriber command from the media device to a component remotely located from the media device.

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33. (New) The method of claim 32, further comprising performing a look-up to determine whether the first subscriber command is to be locally stored at the media device, remotely stored at a network location, or stored at both the media device and in the network location.
34. (New) The method of claim 33, wherein when the first subscriber command is to be remotely stored at the network location, then further comprising forwarding the first subscriber command from the media device to the network location.
35. (New) The method of claim 33, wherein if the first subscriber command is not to be locally stored at the media device, then the processor forwards the second subscriber command from the device.
36. (New) The method of claim 32, wherein after expiration of a pre-determined period of time, then forwarding information related to the first subscriber command from the media device.
37. (New) The method of claim 32, further comprising:
 - determining a result of the second subscriber command relative to a present context; and
 - forwarding the result of the second subscriber command with the second subscriber command that is concurrently forwarded from the media device.
38. (New) The method of claim 32, further comprising receiving a new video stream relative to the present context in response to forwarding the result of the second subscriber command.